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20 October 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH: Deputy Director for Intelligence 8

FROM: [REDACTED]
Deputy Director of Scientific and Weapons Research

SUBJECT: Leadership Problems in the SIG on the Transfer
of Strategic Technology (S)

1. The SIG on the transfer of strategic technology, which is the only USG coordinating body for technology transfer, is in trouble.

[REDACTED] runs through his prepared staff notes for the SIG meetings in a hurried and perfunctory manner and shows no personal interest or evidence of substantive concern for the agenda items up for discussion and decision. In turn, this engenders almost total lack of participation by other policy-level attendees from the Executive Branch agencies. (S)

2. This situation is already affecting government-wide cooperation on technology transfer issues and is resulting in fragmented actions by separate agencies. Both Julian Nall, NIO for Science and Technology, and [REDACTED] Deputy Chief, Technology Transfer Assessment Center, noted this worsening situation at the SIG meeting on 14 October 1983. Two sensitive issues up for discussion -- the hardline DoD position on computer controls in COCOM -- which will set back progress achieved to date and potentially spill over and impact negatively on allied cooperation in COCOM itself -- and the problems with the NSDD on technology transfer -- were essentially swept under the rug with no acknowledgment [REDACTED] of their importance or impact on US technology transfer policies. (S)

3. Some means is needed to remedy this leadership problem in the SIG before momentum on other initiatives on technology transfer are further eroded.

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